

Notice of Availability: Los Pinos Conservation Camp, Cleveland National Forest

The USDA Forest Service is soliciting interest in the operation and maintenance of Los Pinos Conservation Camp located on Trabuco Ranger District of the Cleveland National Forest. The Camp is a 47 acre compound with facilities consisting of 7 barracks buildings, an administration office, an auto/construction shop, a mess hall, an education building, a recreational building, a field house gymnasium, counseling offices/staff quarters, a warehouse, and vocational shops (includes maintenance shop, wood shop, and laundry facility). Additionally, the Camp features an internal road system, soccer field, a baseball field, 4 sewer ponds and sewer spray field. All prospective permit holders must be willing to accept operation and maintenance responsibility for the entire compound and all aspects of its operation and maintenance.

Los Pinos Conservation Camp is located on Long Canyon Road, approximately 1 mile northwest of California State Route 74 (Ortega Highway), in unincorporated Orange County. The camp is in the Santa Ana Mountains at an elevation of approximately 3,100 feet above mean sea level. The facility was constructed by the Forest Service in 1961 and was opened for use as a work center in 1965. The Forest Service's need for the facility ended in 1969. In 1970, the Forest Service issued a Special Use Authorization to Orange County Probation Department to authorize their use of the site as a minimum security juvenile detention facility. In 2009, the Orange County Probation Department requested termination of their Special Use Authorization and vacated the site.

The Cleveland National Forest would like to assess the current level of interest in this opportunity prior to issuing a Special Use Authorization or prospectus. Once a qualified and appropriate authorization holder is identified, the Forest Service would issue a 15-20 year (term may be negotiable) Special Use Permit under the Granger-Thye Act authorizing the operation and maintenance of the government-owned facilities. Under a Granger-Thye permit, fees to the government may be offset through reinvestment in the property. The permit holder would be responsible for annual maintenance activities and associated costs, which were estimated at approximately \$130,000 per year when the camp was last operated.

This legal notice is being published in *The Press-Enterprise* and the *Orange County Register*. Interested parties will have 30 days from the date of publication in *The Press-Enterprise* to acknowledge interest. Please contact Jake Rodriguez, Recreation & Lands Officer, at (951) 736-1811 or jfrodriquez@fs.fed.us to indicate your interest in this opportunity, or to obtain additional information.